

October 16, 2012

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The Detroit News: Hadden: No easy judicial reelections

Columnist Jeffrey Hadden writes "Reelection campaigns for incumbent circuit judges are usually pretty sleepy affairs. Not this time. Slates of incumbent judges in both Wayne and Oakland counties are facing challenges, which is unusual."

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Detroit police union: Officers not conspiring to reduce ticket revenue

"The city's largest police union fired back against City Council President Charles Pugh's claim that Detroit officers are conspiring to reduce court traffic ticket revenue."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Murder trial for Gentz set for January 7

"A trial for Joseph Gentz, the handyman accused of killing a Grosse Park Pointe mother, has been scheduled for January 7 in Wayne County Circuit Court in Detroit. The date was set this morning at Gentz's arraignment on charges of first-degree murder and conspiracy in the slaying of Jane Bashara."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Handyman Gentz's trial set for January

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: Court to hear case on how to apply parole ruling

"The Michigan appeals court is hearing arguments [today] in a case [of a St. Clair County man, Raymond Carp,] that could determine whether prisoners locked up for murder when they were teens will be given a shot at parole."

[Full story](#)

Note: The Associated Press article also ran in the Oakland Press and WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit.

Bay City Times: Bay County judge, attorneys tell knife-brandishing Walmart thief he's lucky police officer didn't kill him

"In being sentenced to jail time and probation, a 21-year-old Bay City man who threatened a police officer with a knife after shoplifting from a Walmart was reminded how fortunate he is to still be alive."

[Full story](#)

The Daily Tribune: Judge rules DNA evidence admissible in Royal Oak murder trial

"Oakland County Circuit Judge Colleen O'Brien has ruled that DNA evidence will be admissible in a murder trial against [Alan Wood, who is] accused of brutally killing an elderly Royal Oak woman in her home last year."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland Press.

Detroit Legal News: Students to witness MSC oral argument

"A collection of firearms owned by a convicted felon, and his efforts to have police deliver the guns to his mother, are at issue in a case that the Michigan Supreme Court will hear on Oct. 25 in Grand Rapids as part of the 'Court Community Connections' program."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Macomb County Legal News.

Also see:

KENT COUNTY STUDENTS TO WITNESS MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT ORAL ARGUMENT FOR 'COURT COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS'

[Press release](#)

Detroit Legal News: Four Wayne County judges set to retire (third article)

"Wayne County will lose four long-standing, well-respected judges due to retirement at the end of the year: Judges Prentis Edwards, Thomas E. Jackson, Michael Sapala and Carole Youngblood. The retirement party held in their honor is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 16 at the International Banquet Center in Greek Town, 8th Floor Ballroom from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m."

[Full story](#)

Hometown Life Newspapers: District court judge leaves lasting legacy; Sawicki retiring after 32 years on the bench in Royal Oak

"The black robe that 44th District Court Judge Daniel Sawicki has zipped on diligently for the last 32 years will be hung up for good following the Nov. 6 general election. Sawicki, who is retiring only because of age limits, called his job 'the greatest in the world,' and said he is going to miss sitting on the bench serving the community."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Hometown Life Newspapers: Candidates tout their experience in Royal Oak court race; Ginotti, Meinecke set to replace retiring Judge Sawicki

[Full story](#)

Kalamazoo Gazette: Kathleen Brickley will advance the cause of justice in Van Buren County (Letter)

Retired Kalamazoo Circuit Court Judge William G. Schma writes "I'm reaching out to your readers in Van Buren County because it is important for them to be well informed about the candidates for circuit court judge in the upcoming election."

[Full story](#)

Macomb County Legal News: High court hears marijuana case

"The Michigan Supreme Court heard oral arguments last Thursday in one of the most significant legal issues since voters approved medical marijuana — the legality of dispensaries."

[Full story](#)

Macomb County Legal News: Committing to pro bono service

"Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Joan E. Young (center) and 46th District Court Judge William Richards (not pictured) administered the Cooley Voluntary Pro Bono Pledge to Thomas M. Cooley Law School students, faculty, staff, alumni, and local attorneys."

[Full story](#)

Macomb County Legal News: LAD shines spotlight on Detroit-area attorneys

"... Among those being honored [at the Legal Aid and Defender Association, Inc. (LAD) annual awards ceremony Thursday October 25] are Macomb County Friend of the Court Lynn M. Davidson, who will receive the Friend of LAD award.... Laddy winners are:... Ed Porknoy Pioneer of Justice: Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Vera Massey-Jones."

[Full story](#)

Mining Journal: Circuit Judge Solka to hear arguments on exotic swine ban

"Producers of exotic swine breeds want a Marquette County Circuit Court judge to overturn an order from the state to get rid of the animals."

[Full story](#)

Muskegon Chronicle: The jail dilemma: Muskegon County inmate reports shine light on why they're incarcerated

"Some people contend that the Muskegon County Jail is too small, leading to a severe overcrowding problem. Others say the jail, rated for 370 beds, is plenty big enough and the overcrowding actually is the product of locking up too many for 'victimless crimes,' such as minor drug offenses."

[Full story](#)

The Oakland Press Blog: Double-Dipping on Alimony

"... Double-dipping, in the world of family law, typically refers to the way assets are valued in the division of a marital estate. A recent Michigan Court of Appeals decision, *Loutts v Loutts*, addresses this issue of 'double-dipping' in the spousal support context."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Court orders trial for woman hurt in crash

"The Michigan appeals court has ordered a trial in the case of a woman who says she can't play tennis or golf after a crash with a state trooper."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Federal bench welcomes Judge Drain

"The U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan, conducted an official investiture ceremony [Friday September 28] for the latest addition to its bench: Judge Gershwin Drain.... Prior to his appointment, he served as a Wayne County Circuit Court judge from 1997 to 2012."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Free seminar presented by Probate Court, Oct. 23

"On Tuesday, Oct. 23, the Oakland County Probate Court will conduct a free seminar titled 'Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court' at the Highland Township Senior Center from 10 a.m. to noon."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: ASKED & ANSWERED: Friend of the Court Citizen Advisory Committee

"In 2002, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners established the Oakland County Friend of the Court Citizen Advisory Committee under the Friend of the Court Act.... The CAC meets on the second Monday of each month in the Oakland County Commissioners Conference Room in the Oakland County Courthouse Complex at 1200 North Telegraph Road, Pontiac."

[Full story](#)

River Country Journal: Elder rights awareness event: information about new laws affecting adults & time to honor Judge Shumaker

"Instances of abuse, neglect, and exploitation are increasing in St. Joseph County and in Michigan. They have been for years... We need to keep up our advocacy, engage our community in looking out for one another and help those in need" – Honorable Judge Thomas E. Shumaker, St. Joseph County Probate Court."

[Full story](#)

Sturgis Journal: Judge's decision to retire was carefully considered

"Probate Judge Thomas Shumaker believes that no matter which candidate wins the election next month, St. Joseph County Probate Court will be in good hands when he leaves."

Full story